

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER
APR 28 2010

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

1. (Currently amended): A method of preparing an implant, comprising:

subjecting a bioresorbable polymeric substrate to a gas-plasma treatment, wherein the bioresorbable polymeric substrate comprises a polylactide polymeric material, and wherein subjecting the substrate to a gas-plasma treatment comprises exposing the substrate to a reactive gas, wherein the reactive gas comprises oxygen, and wherein the supplied energy during the gas-plasma treatment is between about 5 kJ and about 10 kJ at a temperature of less than about 50 C and a pressure between about 0.01 torr and about 10 torr; and

exposing the substrate to living cells that can produce vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF), wherein a portion of the living cells that can produce VEGF become coupled to the substrate; and

herein the living cells that can produce VEGF coupled to the treated substrate produce more VEGF than living cells that can produce VEGF coupled to an untreated substrate.